

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPLICATION OF SPRINTCOM, INC. FOR	)	
ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC	)	
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO	)	CASE NO.
CONSTRUCT A PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS	)	97-463
SERVICES FACILITY IN THE CINCINNATI MAJOR	)	
TRADING AREA (FT. THOMAS, KENTUCKY	)	
FACILITY)	)	

O R D E R

The Commission has received the attached letters regarding the proposed personal communications services facility to be located at Riddleview Park, Newport, Campbell County, Kentucky.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. SprintCom, Inc. ("SprintCom") shall respond to the concerns stated in each letter by certified mail, within 10 days from the date of this Order.
2. SprintCom shall file a copy of the certified letters and dated receipts, within 7 days of the date on the receipts.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 1998.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
Executive Director

  
For the Commission

#97-463

Margarete Johnson  
382 Linden Road  
Southgate, KY 41017  
12-18-97

Executive Director  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602

RECEIVED  
DEC 22 1997  
PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am in receipt of "Public Notice -  
Kentucky Public Service Commission -  
Docket No. 97-463" and I would like  
to express that I am not in favor  
of SprintCom constructing a monopole  
and equipment shelter in Riddleview  
Park, Newport, Campbell County KY.

I hope their application to construct  
these things is denied.

Thank you for considering my  
opinion.

Sincerely,  
Margarete Johnson  
Margarete Johnson

December 22, 1997

Executive Director  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
PO Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602

**RECEIVED**  
DEC 29 1997  
PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Subject: Docket No. 97-463

This letter is being written in objection to the application by SprintCom, Inc. to construct and operate a personal communications telecommunications service facility to be located in Riddleview Park, Newport, Campbell County, Ky.

I object to the placement of a 150 foot tower within a 500 foot radius of my home. I do not want to look out my front door and see this tower practically on my doorstep.

I have read articles and heard news reports that the emissions from these towers may cause health concerns.

I also feel the close proximity of this tower could interfere with radio and cable tv reception.

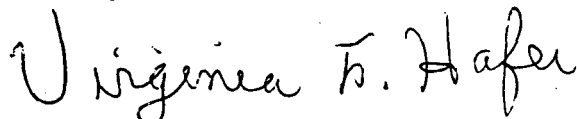
A facility such as this belongs in an industrial or commercial area. Not in a residential neighborhood, especially a neighborhood park where children will be playing.

Also the streets in this area are narrow and not made to handle the extra traffic such construction and maintenance of this facility would cause.

Finally, once one tower has been constructed, others will follow, either from this company or competing companies and I do not want to be surrounded by them.

Therefore, I request that the application as stated in Docket No. 97-463 be rejected.

Sincerely,



Virginia F. Hafer  
2234 Joyce Avenue  
Newport, KY 41071-2608

97-463

RECEIVED  
JAN 20 1998  
PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

January 15, 1998

Executive Director  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P. O. Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602

Ref: Docket No. 97-463  
Sprint letter dated December 15, 1997

Subject: 143 ft. monopole (150 ft.) to be installed in Riddleview Park, So. Newport, KY

I vote NO on this Sprint monopole to be installed in a playground that was established for the children of Newport, not the bureaucrats of Sprint.

I do not agree with the arbitrary time limit that was established by the bureaucrats of Sprint and the Kentucky Public Service Commission for answering the Sprint letter. My sister and I went on vacation to Israel on December 15 where I had an accident which resulted in my having a hip replacement operation and thus this late response to a stupid reply date.

The residents of Douglas Drive in So. Newport, KY do not want nor need a Sprint tower in our backyard -- would you like to have one in yours?

Why is the Sprint truck already working in our park -- has the deal already been cut with Sprint?

I vote NO on Sprint being allowed to put a tower in a children's playground in our neighborhood.

*F. Madeline Arsenault*

F. Madeline Arsenault  
20 Douglas Dr.  
Newport, KY 41071

97-463

January 13, 1998

Executive Director  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602

RECEIVED

JAN 20 1998

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Reference: Docket No. 97-463  
Sprint letter dated Dec. 15, 1997

Subject: 143 ft. monopole (150 ft.) to be installed in Riddleview Park,  
S. Newport, KY

The above referenced letter from Sprint is about the dumbest thing that I have ever seen.

Why would anyone with an ounce of common sense mail a letter dated December 15 (which most didn't receive until at least December 19 or later - was it mailed December 15 or dated December 15?) and expect a formal response within 20 days of the date of the letter which is January 4.

Maybe the bureaucrats in Sprint have never heard of Christmas and New Year's but at the homes of most normal people, this is a real busy time for family matters which includes sending, receiving, and reading Christmas cards, decorating rooms and houses for Christmas, putting up Christmas trees, shopping for Christmas presents, preparing for family gatherings, as well as attending many holiday social events.

For them to send a letter like this requiring an answer during the holiday season is a good example of why the American people have such a low opinion of bureaucrats.

As a matter of further concern, for the residents of Douglas Drive is the fact that about four of these people are over 70 years of age and will not be able to travel to Frankfort so please do not schedule any meetings in Frankfort on this issue.

If there is a meeting/hearing, why not schedule it at Riddleview Park? Why is a hearing necessary when the residents of So. Newport do not want a Sprint tower?

*Robert E. Allen*

Robert E. Allen  
23 Douglas Drive  
Newport, KY 41071

*2 Vote NO*

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December 15, 1997

**Sprint PCS**

Cincinnati BTA  
4605 Duke Drive  
Mason, Ohio 45040-9056

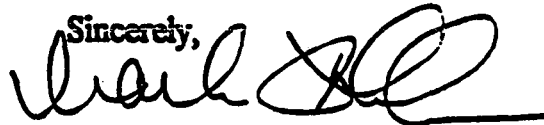
Telephone: 513 336 8300

**RE: Public Notice - Kentucky Public Service Commission  
Docket No. 97-463**

SprintCom, Inc., has applied to the Kentucky Public Service Commission for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct and operate a new facility to operate a personal communications telecommunications service ("PCS"). The facility will include a 143 foot monopole, with attached antennas extending upward for a total height of 150 feet; and an equipment shelter to be located in Riddleview Park, Newport, Campbell County, Kentucky. A map showing the location of the proposed new facility is enclosed. You are being notified because you own property within a 500-foot radius of the proposed monopole.

The Commission invites your comments regarding the proposed construction. You also have the right to intervene in this matter. Your initial communication to the Commission must be received by the Commission within twenty (20) days of the date of this letter as shown above.

Your comments and request for intervention, if any, should be addressed to: Executive Director, Kentucky Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602. Please refer to Docket No. 97-463 in your correspondence.

Sincerely,  


Mark W. Dobbins  
Sandra F. Keene

97-463

RECEIVED

DEC 30 1997

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

CAROL GOLD PIERCE

2235 JOYCE AVE.

NEWPORT, KY 41071

12/28/97

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

P.O. Box 615

FRANKFORT, KY 40602

DEAR SIR OR MADAM:

I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY OPPOSITION TO  
SPRINTCOM, INC.'S APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT AND  
OPERATE A NEW FACILITY IN RIDGEVIEW PARK,  
NEWPORT, CAMBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY (DOCKET NO. 97-463).  
I DO NOT WANT THEM TO CONSTRUCT THE  
PROPOSED MONOPOLE AND EQUIPMENT STRUCTURE IN  
THE RIDGEVIEW PARK LOCATION.

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING MY OPINION.

SINCERELY,

Carol Gold Pierce  
CAROL GOLD PIERCE

Albert Schomaker  
2216 Joyce Avenue  
Newport, KY 41071

RECEIVED  
DEC 30 1997  
PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

December 28, 1997.

Executive Director  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602

Dear Sir or Madam:

I have recently been advised by letter of the desire of Sprint PCS (referred to below as simply "Sprint") to locate a mobile communications transmission tower near my house at the above address. This matter is referenced as: Kentucky Public Service Commission Docket No. 97-463. I note with some irony that the request is for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. In my opinion the proposed pole would be neither. Indeed, it would be the antithesis of both convenience and necessity for those who would be condemned to observe this eyesore on a daily basis.

Additionally, I regard it as no accident that "Public Notice" of this proposed tower is issued at a time of year when the allowed twenty day comment period runs through (and will expire within) a holiday period when many potential objections to said project might never be raised due to absence, or activity levels of proximate property owners which conceivably could preclude their having time available to prepare a comment. I regard the timing of this notice as evidentiary of a disingenuous nature to the actual request for comment.

More to the point, I stand adamantly opposed to the construction of the proposed Sprint tower (or any similar tower) in this general location. As delineated in the exhibits attached to the Sprint issued Public Notice, the proposed tower is to service telephone users in Ft. Thomas, Ky. Of what possible benefit then, is this tower to residents of Newport, Ky.? Knowing the economic demographics of these two cities, it is difficult to imagine that the placement of this tower constitutes anything other than an attempt to impose this eyesore on an area economically less advantaged than the area that it is primarily intended to service.

Generally speaking, similar circumstances would obtain in many of the communities surrounding Ft. Thomas, and any forthright attempt to assess the mood of those communities regarding such a tower (should Sprint attempt to relocate it there) should include mention of these and other concerns raised to contravene this placement, in the Public Notice of those potential placements.



Concerns related to construction of this tower include but are not limited to the following:

The tower will be a ongoing visual eyesore, that will have a negative impact on the value of nearby properties. (In this regard, it seems to me both arbitrary and short-sighted to limit comment to property owners within five hundred feet of any proposed tower. Anyone from whose property the tower is visible, or upon whose property construction of such a tower might have a deleterious impact (immediate or not), should have the right to provide evidence of said impact.)

Such a tower will have a detrimental impact on a park area that in many ways constitutes an unspoiled natural area. Indeed, construction of such a tower might well lead proponents of using this park area for new home construction to believe that erosion of the pristine nature of this might be the best way to overcome objections to its overall conversion to transient economic interests.

There have been concerns raised in the not too distant past suggesting that exposure to 900MHz radiation may contribute to the generation of certain kinds of cancers. Yes, the industry did a quick study in an attempt to allay these concerns, but the study was by no means rigorous, nor even in this relaxed setting were its results conclusive, despite the industry's attempt to put a positive spin on the matter. I am not satisfied that my health and that of my neighbors is being safeguarded in proximity to such an antenna.

My wife wears a pacemaker, and this device might be impacted by proximity to such a tower. If this occurs, can she expect to hear anything other than: "Our tower did not cause the problem!" from Sprint? What level of compensation would Sprint consider adequate to compensate her, or others in the same circumstance, for loss of life should that situation obtain?

Can Sprint say with a straight face that presence of their tower will not interfere with local television or other electromagnetic signals? I think not.

To what increased risk of lightning strikes would such a tower expose nearby property owners.

To what extent will the various electromagnetic pollution concerns impact the health of children playing in the park. (Yes, that is the predominate function of this park!)

Leveling of a site for construction of such a tower and its attendant equipment building(s), will permanently mitigate any flash flood control capability of this wooded hillside. Properties at the bottom of this hill are already forced to contend with significant runoff problems during rain and thaw events, this new construction will exacerbate an already unacceptable situation. Degradation of the properties directly affected by this problem will affect property values throughout the neighborhood. As one property degrades, its value decreases, as its value decreases, subsequent owners' level of commitment to property maintenance is diminished by their level of investment, as their commitment attenuates, the deterioration becomes visible, this reduces the value of nearby properties, and so on...

Recent improvements at Riddleview Park involved construction activities carried on by the National Guard. As a result of this activity, a portion of the vegetation in the park was eliminated to provide for equipment storage. Presumably, Sprint would like to now claim that this area (where their proposed tower would be located) has no other viable use. Of course if they wait too long it might revert to its prior wooded state and their rationalization would evaporate as well.

The Newport City Manager has stated in the Newport City Council Meeting held on December 22, 1997, that the proposed Sprint transmission tower will be hidden from view by the surrounding trees. If the tower is hidden from view by trees then it will not be effective in those areas from which it is so effectively hidden. Why then should it be placed there?


Why this particular location is considered so advantageous is something of a mystery to me. I would think that it would more effectively attack its intended service area by being placed on the opposite side of the hill mentioned in the Public Notice document. Indeed, there is a water tower in South Newport off of Grandview Avenue. Why is this not an acceptable location for this tower.

In other communities around the country when companies seek to site such towers they are expected to establish towers of lesser height, and to disguise them as other, more aesthetically appealing structures. Why does Sprint expect us to accept any lesser level of accommodation in this case?

Finally, what considerations are being provided by Sprint, and to what individuals and/or units of government are these benefits directed? Surely, the City of Newport is not establishing itself as the utility shed of the City of Ft. Thomas without some sort of significant compensation for same. Whatever the considerations they should become part of the public record in this matter.

As this matter goes forward, I would ask that I, and all those who received the initial Public Notice, be provided with copies of all communications between Sprint, the various local units of government, and yourselves; such communications to include complete minutes of all meetings past and present and assertions to the effect that these are the only communications occurring in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
12/28/97

Albert J. Schomaker

Cc: Local Neighbors

Newport City Manager

RECEIVED

JAN - 6 1998

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

2223 Joyce Ave.  
Newport, KY 41071  
January 2, 1998

Executive Director  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602

RE: Docket 97-463

Dear Sir or Madam:

As property owners who live within 500 feet of the proposed Sprint tower that would be placed in Riddleview Park in South Newport, we have several concerns.

Our property already seems to be a basin for the water which runs off the hill during any heavy rain. Several years ago the Army Corps of Engineers did some excavation at the park and the drainage problem seemed to worsen. We are concerned that any additional movement of the land will only add to this problem.

Also, we are concerned about the long-range plans for this type of tower. Will other companies use the tower or will our landscape become crowded with more unsightly towers?

Finally, as parents we are concerned about any risks to our children's health, safety, and well-being. Can we be assured that the tower poses no risks to our family and our neighbors? One disadvantage that is obvious is the use of a park for something other than recreation. Riddleview Park provides a place for children from our neighborhood to play. The ballfield and playground equipment allow the children of this neighborhood to play away from the streets and traffic. Why is a public park being used for business purposes?

As property owners, parents, and neighbors, we are against the use of Riddleview Park for the Sprint tower.

Sincerely,

*Thomas Yeager Deborah Yeager*  
Thomas and Deborah Yeager

cc: Newport City Manager

RECEIVED

JAN - 5 1998

Newport, Kentucky  
December 31, 1997

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Sandra F. Keene  
Frankfort, Kentucky

RE; Docket No. 97-463

SPRINTCOM NO. KY. MTA  
Site name; Ft. Thomas  
Site Number; 009 A

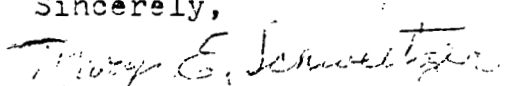
Dear Ms Keene;

On December 15, 1997 you addressed me via Certified mail concerning the 150 foot structure to be erected 500 feet from my property. I am strongly opposed. I have resided at this address since 1939 (59) years and no such structure was necessary.

My concern is the effects this structure will have on my television reception. Also, could this monopole attract lightning? The name of site being Ft. Thomas leads me to believe that this structure is to benefit residents of that community. If this is the case why is it to be erected in city of Newport.

Trusting to hear from the Commission in my behalf.

Sincerely,

  
Mary E. Schweitzer  
2240 Joyce Ave.  
Newport, Ky. 41071

RECEIVED

JAN - 5 1998

97-463

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Executive Director

Ky. Public Service Commission

P.O. Box 615

Frankfort, Ky. 40602

January 2, 1998

I received notification from Sprint PCS of their intention to build a tower in Ridgely Park within 500 feet of my house.

I find it hard to believe the trees would hide this tower from view, that the probable increased water runoff would be of any benefit.

This tower will ~~add~~ add nothing of value but could very well detract from the neighborhood.

I definitely oppose construction of this tower at this location.

Paul Wiggins

2212 Joyce Ave.  
Newport, Ky. 41071-2608

97-463

Betty Holcomb  
2214 Joyce Ave.  
Newport, Ky 41071

Executive Director

Ky. Public Service Commission

P.O. Box 615

Frankfort, Ky 40602

RECEIVED

JAN - 5 1998

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

I am opposed to the  
construction of the proposed  
Sprint tower.

The proposed tower is  
to service telephone users  
in Ft. Thomas, Ky. Of what  
possible benefit then is  
this tower to residents of  
Newport, Ky.?

Jan 4, 1998  
RECEIVED

JAN - 5 1998

Dear Sir:

I am against having  
143 foot monopole in Riddle Park.  
It is a childrens park and  
its p<sup>r</sup>unwise project.

I also think it would  
intefere with my T.V.  
reception. I have to depend on  
T.V. for news ect. as I  
am handicapped.

I am the owner of the  
home at 22 Douglas Dr.,  
Newport, Ky. 41071. - 2603

Mrs. Robert Hammerle,  
22 Douglas Drive  
Newport, Ky 41071

DOCKET NO. 97-463

Executive Director  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

December 31, 1997

RECEIVED

JAN - 5 1998

Re. Public Notice      Docket No 97-463 PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Dear Sir:

We have received a notice from Sprint concerning Docket No 97-463, asking us to send our concerns and requests for intervention to be addressed to you.

Our concerns are as follows:

We have a very nice neighborhood with Riddleview Park in the center of it.

This Park was given to the City of Newport for the children and adults to play and relax.

Weather permitting it is used almost every day for baseball, soccer, picnics, jogging, nature walks

We think it is a shame to put this facility in our Park taking up needed space and we are very unhappy about a tower being placed in it, which immediately makes the neighborhood look tacky.

There are other spaces available which are higher, no parks and no residents, that could be used, such as:

S.E. corner of Grand Avenue and Carothers Road,  
Behind the IGA Market on Carothers Road  
or



The land Beverly Hills Country Club occupies  
on Alexandria Pike before its demise.

We would appreciate it very much if you  
would consider these or other options before  
you approve our Park.

Thank you  
Sincerely  
Mrs Georgia Lee Hillman  
24 Douglas Drive  
Newport Ky. 41071-2603

Mrs Marie Neltner

30 Douglas Dr.

(I wrote this for her she is ill)

Mr. Dan T. Jones

6 Douglas Dr.

Beverly Ward

4 Douglas Dr.

Mr Robert Ittles

2314 Joyce Ave

P.S. It has just come to my attention that these  
telecommunication towers are subject to micro-  
waves that may cause cancer.

Surely we do not want our children  
or adults for that matter to be exposed to this

Thank you